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# Microalgae biomass incorporation in salted cookies (“crackers”) increases their functional properties

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## BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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### Abstract:

In a previous work [1], microalgae sweet cookies were developed, but microalgae savoury foods might be more easily accepted due to their characteristic marine flavour. This study evaluated salted cookies (“crackers”) with 2% and 6% (w/w) of *Arthrospira platensis* F&M-C256, *Chlorella vulgaris* Allma, *Tetraselmis suecica* F&M-M33 and *Phaeodactylum tricornutum* F&M-M40 biomass, in terms of physicochemical properties, *in vitro* digestibility (IVD) and radical scavenging activity (RSA).

Microalgae crackers showed significantly higher ( $p < 0.05$ ) protein content than the control (9.8% dw), with the highest values ( $>14\%$  dw) for 6% *A. platensis* and *C. vulgaris*. The highest total dietary fiber (6.7% dw) was found for 6% *A. platensis* cracker while the control had 5.0% (dw). The addition of algae did not significantly increase the salt content in relation to the control (1.9% dw), except for 6% *T. suecica* (2.6% dw).

Microalgae crackers showed high IVD, with values ranging from 81.9% to 85.8%, with the highest value for *A. platensis*. These values are within the IVD range of commercial salted crackers.

The highest RSAs (24.4-24.6%, which corresponds to 0.25 mg/g<sub>alga</sub> of vitamin C equivalent antioxidant capacity) were found for *A. platensis* and *P. tricornutum* both at 6% incorporation. Total phenolics in microalgae crackers ranged from 1.1 to 2.4 mg of gallic acid equivalent per g of algal biomass, with the highest value for *T. suecica* 6%.

[1] Batista A.P. et al (2017) Algal Research, 26:161-171

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